Atty Dkt. No.: VITA-003 USSN: 09/737,246

8. (reiterated) A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 1, or progeny of the cell.

9. (amended) A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein the nucleotide sequence of the polynucleotide is operably linked with a regulatory sequence that controls expression of the polynucleotide in a host cell, or progeny of the cell.

- 10. **(reiterated)** The host cell of claim 8 which is a eukaryote.
- 11. **(reiterated)** The polynucleotide of claim 1 that is an antisense polynucleotide less than about 100 bases in length.
- 12. **(reiterated)** An antisense oligonucleotide complementary to a messenger RNA comprising SEQ ID NO:1 and encoding CLASP-3, wherein the oligonucleotide inhibits the expression of CLASP-3.
- 13. (amended) An isolated CLASP-3 polynucleotide comprising at least 600 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1 or allelic variant thereof.
 - 14. (reiterated) The polynucleotide of claim 1 that is RNA.
 - 15. **(reiterated)** A method for producing a polypeptide comprising:
 - (a) culturing the host cell of claim 8 under conditions such that the polypeptide is expressed; and
 - (b) recovering the polypeptide from the cultured host cell or its cultured medium.
 - 30. (amended) A composition comprising a polynucleotide of claim 1 and a carrier.
- 38. (new) The polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide having at least 200 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.

Atty Dkt. No.: VITA-003 USSN: 09/737,246

39. **(new)** An isolated CLASP-3 polynucleotide, wherein said polynucleotide comprises at least 600 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1 and hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:1 under conditions of high stringency.

Clo

40. **(new)** An isolated CLASP-3 polynucleotide, wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide having 95% or more sequence identity with at least 200 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.